

group consisting of the carboxylic acid, sulfonic acid, sulfuric acid, phosphoric acid and phosphonic acid groups.

6. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one monomer A is selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, maleic acid, fumaric acid, itaconic acid, crotonic acid, 4-styrenesulfonic acid, 2-methacryloxyethylsulfonic acid, vinylsulfonic acid and vinylphosphonic acid.

A¹ 7. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one monomer A is selected from the group consisting of 2-vinylpyridine, 4-vinylpyridine, 2-vinylimidazole, 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethyl acrylate, 2-(N,N-dimethylamino)ethyl methacrylate, 2-(N,N-diethylamino)ethyl acrylate, 2-(N,N-diethylamino)ethyl methacrylate, 2-(N-tert-butylamino)ethyl methacrylate, N-(3-N',N'-dimethylaminopropyl)methacrylamide and 2-(1-imidazolin-2-onyl)ethyl methacrylate and also 2-(N,N,N-trimethylammonium)ethyl acrylate chloride, 2-(N,N,N-trimethylammonium)ethyl methacrylate chloride, 2-(N-benzyl-N,N-dimethylammonium)ethyl acrylate chloride and 2-(N-benzyl-N,N-dimethylammonium)ethyl methacrylate chloride.

8. (Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one free-radical polymerization initiator is 2,2'-azobis(amidinopropyl) dihydrochloride.

A² 10. (Amended) An aqueous dispersion of composite particles obtainable by a process as claimed in claim 1.

A³ 12. (Amended) The use of an aqueous dispersion of composite particles, as claimed in claim 10, as an adhesive, as a binder, for producing a protective coat, for modifying cement formulations and mortar formulations, or in medical diagnostics.

13. (Amended) A composite-particle powder obtainable by drying an aqueous dispersion of composite particles, as claimed in claim 10.